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The Collector and Art Critic

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ARTS AND CRAFTS, BIBLIOGRAPHY, ETC.

VOL. III. No. I.

FEBRUARY 15, 1905

FIFTEEN CENTS THE COPY.

THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC is published semi-monthly by THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, at 489 Fifth avenue, New York City, at \$2.00 per year subscription for the United States and Canada, and \$2.50 for a foreign subscription.

The single copies will be sold at 15 cents the copy at various agencies, through Brentano's, of New York, Paris and London.

All communications to the Editorial Department should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

All business communications regarding subscriptions and advertising should be addressed to THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

The following circular letter was sent out a few weeks ago to the old subscribers, and explains itself:

"The persistent call for THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC has of late become so insistent that I have been led to believe that after four years' suspension, 'no other periodical has taken its place'—to quote a well-known art collector.

"In answer, then, to the call of its friends, collectors, artists and dealers, THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC will appear again, as of old, on February 15, 1905, with the first number of its third volume. The paper will follow the same lines of frank and unbiased criticism; it will deal with book-craft and collecting; it will be a medium of art information—native and foreign; it will endeavor to be even more valuable than ever before.

"You are, therefor, invited to send your subscription, with enclosed blank filled out, at once to the publisher's office, so that you may receive the first number promptly.

"An opportunity is offered to have the paper sent to your friends whom you might wish to interest, and who will be notified of your courtesy.

"Very truly yours,

"DAVID C. PREYER."

* * *

The above circular indicates the "reason why" of the reappearance of THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC. The kindly expressed views of many collectors, artists and amateurs pointed to the distinct void in critical art journalism created by the suspension of this periodical four years ago—a void which the requirements of increasing art-interest demand to be filled.

A friend of the paper, writing recently, says: "In looking over my old file of THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC I am struck with the dignity of its position. A constant echo of its

voice is heard. Looking back through the vista of years its aims and objects become nobler, and more and more I feel that if 'being dead and still speaketh,' it should be revived to speak louder."

Let us forget, then, this four years' sleep. Let us awake to new activity—but with the same aim: to give an honest, fearless and absolutely unbiased periodical of value to artist, dealer, collector and amateur alike. There will be no axe to grind. There is not a dealer or artist or collector who "for love or money" ever will be able to influence in the least tittle or iota any single statement of praise or blame.

I would repeat the program I laid out for myself when first I undertook to continue the original ART COLLECTOR:

"This journal stands for what is good in art. Fearlessly will it assail the fraud, nor will the shibboleth of quacks and clowns pass. Whatever is true and pure, serious and elevating, will be the ideal presented."

With this as the corner-stone of this journal's policy, I ask for the support and coöperation of all who are interested in art in its purity and high purposes, and I am willing to abide by the verdict of my readers.

* * *

The subjects to which this periodical will be devoted have a wide range. They cover the pictorial arts, reproductions in color and black and white, engravings and bookplates. The departments are devoted to the Industrial Arts, to Bookcraft, to Sculpture, to Ceramics, to Architecture. A careful record of important sales will be made.

* * *

The chief aim will be *to instruct and give information*. Attention will be called to the legitimate trade in art objects, while fake old masters or any kind of charlatanry will be assailed. Galleries and museums will be described, as well as important private collections, and careful note will be made of all important foreign happenings in the artistic arena.

Thus THE COLLECTOR AND ART CRITIC will strive to become a *Vade mecum*, a file of reference, a source of information and instruction, and a guide to bring together artist, dealer and collector.

* * *

All articles or paragraphs contributed are signed or initialed, the Editor will be responsible for all other matter.

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In the next number the subject of "Duty on Art" will be thoroughly discussed. An American collection will be described and the Department of Sculpture will be opened. The Foreign Notes and Sales Abroad will be more fully taken up.

2/12/1905